

**REMARKS**

Claims 21-27 were pending. Claim 25 has been amended. Claims 26 and 27 have been canceled. Claims 21-25 are pending.

Claims 25 and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 22 and 23 of U.S. Pat. No. 6,214,045 to Corbitt, Jr. et al. Claim 25 has been amended to include subject matter from claim 27. Claims 26 and 27 have been canceled. Withdrawal of the statutory double patenting rejection respectfully is requested.

Claim 27 stands rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 22-24 of Corbitt Jr., et al. Claims 21-24 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 9-16 of Corbitt Jr., et al. in view of U.S. Pat. No. 4,298,998 to Naficy. Applicant submits the accompanying terminal disclaimer to address these concerns.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Dated: September 14, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Stephen A. Soffen

Registration No.: 31,063

Peter McGee

Registration No.: 35,947

DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO MORIN &  
OSHINSKY LLP

2101 L Street NW

Washington, DC 20037-1526

(202) 785-9700

Attorneys for Applicant

Attachments